

From: Jim Patterson jim.patterson@alacourt.gov

Subject: Please bring HB 598 to the Floor NOW

Date: May 29, 2019 at 10:17 AM

To: d.r.sessions@att.net, David.sessions@alsenate.gov

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Senator Sessions:

1. Forget the lobbyists and special interests. A non-binding unenforceable resolution from the county commission (2 of whom are lame duck), and non-binding unenforceable resolution from the City of Mobile—a city with arguably the highest murder rate in the state [FN 1] is not the solution.
2. The BEST and QUICKEST solution to the ENTIRE problem is to bring HB 598 up for a vote on the Senate Floor and pass it.
3. You know that HB 598 passed the house committee unanimously when 10 judges were staring them down (one apparently later crawfished when it came up on the floor—because a lobbyist shamelessly pointed that out to me yesterday).
4. The very next week, it was important enough for 13 judges to leave their Mobile County courtrooms for an entire day and travel Montgomery tell you, Jack Williams, and Vivian Davis Figures—OUR Senators-- the real world effect poor funding has had on crime and on children and families in Mobile County.
5. We had no lobbyist argue or try and manipulate you. WE stood before you all and told real world stories about how inadequate funding is hurting the citizens of Mobile County, Alabama—the folks WE were elected to serve. Neither of the two lobbyists in the room that day contradicted what we said in our presence. I will admit that both made what I consider empty promises to help get the Judicial Branch of Government funded sometime in the future. Yea, right. I bet you a six pack the lobbyists will do what lobbyists do--watch out for those who pay them—the special interests—as they always have.
6. The best way for the Legislature fix the ENTIRE JUDICIAL BUDGET NIGHTMARE for the WHOLE State of Alabama would be to have all those lobbyists, and have all the municipalities, and have all the county commissioners, and any other special interests SCREAMING BLOODY MURDER for using

and any other special interests **SCREAMING BLOOD MONEY** for using SSUT money to fund the Judicial Branch of Government when indeed it is a State responsibility according to Section 6.10 of the Alabama Constitution.

7. John F. Kennedy wrote the book: *Profiles in Courage*, which was a 1957 Pulitzer Prize-winning volume of short biographies describing acts of bravery and integrity by eight United States Senators. The book profiles senators who defied the opinions of their party and constituents to do what they felt was right and suffered severe criticism and losses in popularity because of their actions.
8. **I call on you to be one of those hero's.**
9. If you bring HB 598 to the Senate floor NOW, and ask Jack to pass it as well (Vivian has said she would), **our Delegation will have done the most anyone has ever done to fix the judicial budget for the entire State of Alabama.**

I call on you to put public safety first. I have copied the commissioners and the mayor on this, so no one will say I am working behind anyone's back. [Re the council, Mayor Stimpson, please see FN 2.] However, I have also copied the media to bring some heat.

We cannot expect folks to take a job in our clerk's office "hoping" we get the funding promised by the city and county each year. How could she hire more clerks not knowing they would only have funding from year to year if the county and city keep their promises? How could anyone live without having steady paycheck so as to buy a house or car, pay for parochial school, college, etc.?

Give us the steady source of temporary funding we need in the 13th Circuit, and make the State and all the lobbyists and special interests fix the problem. You won't lose your Senate seat over this – because standing up for what is right will only make you stronger.

PLEASE! **Bring the bill to the floor for a vote today.**

Sincerely,

/s/ *Jim Patterson*

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FN 1 See <<https://www.cityrating.com/crime-statistics/alabama/mobile.html>> (visited May 28, 2019)

FN 2 The City Council's web site is being updated, and I cannot find their e-mails so if the Mayor will please forward this to them, I would appreciate it.